is marginal shortfall in quantity due to lower production of gold ore, poor grade of ore and phasing out of mines.

(e) No worker has as yet been retrenched. Over 1000 persons have come forword to avail a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for workers being implemented by Bharat Gold Mines Limited.

Consumption of Petroleum Products

1156. SHRI SUKH DEV PASWAN:Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the average monthly growth rate or consumption of petroleum products since the beginning of 1991as compared to the corresponding period in the previous year1990;

(b) the basis and assumptions on which the statistics are based;

(c) whether the Oil Coordination Committee has recommended substantial reduction in the supplies of oil products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision, if any, taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The consumption from January, 1991 to October, 1991 was 1.2% less than the consumption during the corresponding period of 1990.

(b) These are based on figures as reported by the Oil Companies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Indians in Kuwaiti Jails

1157. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian nationals are languishing in the jails of Kuwait and other Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for their early release; and

(c) the number of Non-Resident Indian killed during the Gulf war?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) There are some Indian nationals in the jails of Kuwait and other Gulf contries.

(b) Embassy officials have been meeting Indians lodged in jails and taking up issues relating to their treatment and release with host Government on merits of each case. General advice is also tendered to such Indian nationals about local legal proceedings with a view to assist them.

(c) The information is being collected.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

1158. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Goverment have received any proposal for opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Bilaspur, Una, Hamirpur and Dehra Tehsil of Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which the Krishi Vigyan Kendras are likely to be opened at the aforesaid places; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C.LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No decision in this regard

has been taken.

[*English*]

On-Going Irrigation Projects in Kerala

1159. SHRI P.C.THOMAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going irrigation projects in Kerala;

(b) the progress made thereon so far; and

(c) the time by which those are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). A statement giving details of on-going major and medium irrigation Projects in Kerala is enclosed.